

# LETTER

FROM

K. Charls the Second,

Third Monarch of *Great Britain*; to  
Mr Cawton, late Minister of the English Church  
in *Rotterdam*, to be communicated to the rest of the  
Ministers of the Reformed Churches in *Holland*  
in Defence of Himselfe in matters  
of Religion.

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*Published upon the desire of Mrs. Cawton (widow of the late  
Reverend Mr. Cawton deceased) with whom the Ori-  
ginall, under Hand and Seal, is to be seen.*

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L O N D O N,

Printed by William Wilson for Richard Layman, at the  
white Lion in St Paul's Church-yard. 1660.

LETTER

M O R I

K. Charles the Second,

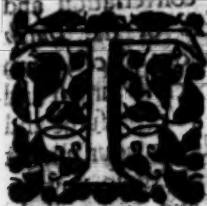
in London, to be recommended to the  
Ministry of the Interior, in London  
in Department of the Interior  
Mr. Canton, late Minister of the English Church  
Third Monarch of Great Britain; to

Remitted Mr. Carver's account to the  
Publick upon the report of Mr. Carver (in which of the late

LOVDO

Where taken in 20 July's Church-yard. 1880.

# CHARLES.



Rusty, and Wellbeloved, We greet you well. We have received so full a testimony from Persons (to whom We give entire credit) of your good Affection to Our Person, and Zeal for Our Service, that We are willing to recommend an Affair to you, in which We are very much concerned.

We do not wonder, that the malice of Our Enemies should continue to lay all manner of scandalls upon Us, which might take away Our Reputation; but that they should find credit with any, to make Our Affection to the Protestant Religion in any degree suspected, is very strange; since the world cannot but take notice of Our constant, and uninterrupted Profession and Exercise in it, in those Places, where the contrary Religion is only practised and allowed. And though We do not boast of doing that, which we should be heartily ashamed if We did not do; We may reasonably believe, That no man hath, or can more manifest his Affection to, and Zeal for, the Protestant Religion, than We have done, or, in some respects, hath more suffered for it. And therefore We are the more sensibly affected, that those Calumnies can make impression to Our disadvantage, in the minds of honest and pious men, as We are in-

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formed they have done. And We do the rather  
insist thereto We take of Our suffering in  
this particular to you, because, As you have the  
Charge of the *English* Congregation in *Roterdam*;  
So you cannot but have much conversation and  
acquaintance with the Ministers of the *Dutch*  
Church, and others in that populous place, with  
whom We would not suffer under so unjust and  
scandalous an Impuration. And We presume and  
expect from you, that you will use your utmost  
diligence and dexterity, to root out these unwor-  
thy Aspersions, so maliciously and groundlessly  
laid upon Us by wicked men; and that you as-  
sure all, who will give credit to you, that We  
value Our Self so much, upon that part of Our  
Title of being *Defender of the Faith*, that no  
worldly temptations can ever prevail with Us  
to swerve from It, and the Protestant Religion,  
in which we have been bred: the Propagation  
whereof we shall endeavour with Our utmost  
power. And as We shall never fail in the perfor-  
mance of Our Duty herein, so We shall take the  
Offices you shall do, in vindicating Us from these  
Reproaches, very well from you: In which, VVe  
promise Our self, you will serve Us effectually;  
And so VVe bid you Farewell. Given at Our  
Court at *Brussels*, the seventh Day of *November*,  
1658, in the tenth year of Our Reign.

*By his Majesty's Command.*

EDWARD NICOLAS.

*This*

1677  
This Latin Translation of the foregoing  
English Letter, was sent from the King at  
the same time by Major Gamcoll Malley,  
that it might be imparted by Mr. Cawton  
to the French and Dutch Ministers.



*Id est & Per dilecto, Salutem.* Singu-  
lare tuum in Nos, relique no-  
stras studium multorum (quibus  
cumulatam habemus fidem)  
testimonio comprobatum, facit,  
ut negotium tibi, quod unice ad  
Nos spectat, commendare in a-  
lium induxerimus. Quod Nos inimici Nostri om-  
ni probrorum genere, pro consuetâ malitiâ, quò exi-  
stimationem Nostram convellant, onerare perseve-  
rent, haud quaquam miramur; illud præter spem  
atque incredibile accidit, inveniri potuisse aliquos,  
quibus Nostrum erga Religionem Protestantium  
affectum suspectum redderent; cum nulli ignota  
possit esse constans Nostra & nunquam interrupta  
eiusdem Professio & Exercitium, iis ipsis in locis ubi  
contraria tantum Religio viget & permittitur: Eri  
verò Nos id egisse non gloriamur, quod prætermisisse  
maximè puduisset, hoc tam n verè licet dicere, nemi-  
nem vel majorem affectum vel ardentius studium er-  
ga Religionem Protestantium testatum unquam,  
aut testari posse, aut hoc nomine plura perpeßum.  
Quare eo gravius ferimus, id accidere potuisse, ut ca-  
lumnix illæ multorum bonorum (quemadmodum  
certiores

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certiores facti sumus) & piorum virorum animos  
occuparent, eosque à Nobis abalienarent: tib verò  
ideo prædictis sensibus inclinat ad Turpe injuria  
dicere volumus, quia, cum penes te sit *Anglicane*  
*Congregationis Antverpiani* regimen, fieri necesse  
est, ut cum multis Ecclesie Reformatæ Ministris  
et alijs qui Celebritatem illam Unamunt colunt, aut  
frequenter, sermones conferas: in quorum animis in-  
fidere atroces ejusmodi & injustas suspiciones nol-  
lemus. Quare summam te diligentiam & operam ad-  
hibiturum confidimus, quo iniquæ illæ obreccationes  
& improborum hominum Sycophantiæ retellantur,  
& ut in id sedulo incumbas, postulamus; Omnes in-  
super quibuscum locutus fueris certos reddes, Nobis  
Titulum illum Nostrum *Defensoris Fidei* adeo esse  
cordi, ut nihil sit in humanis rebus tantum, quod Nos  
ad eum amittendum, aut à Religione Proxistantium  
in quâ educati sumus, quamque omni ope propa-  
gare conabimur, desciscendum pelliciat. Quomad-  
modum verò hac in re Officio Nostrò nunquam de-  
erimus, ita studia tua in Nos ab opprobriis istis vin-  
dicando boni consulemus, sedulamque in eo nava-  
turum te operam confidimus. Quod superest, plurimâ  
te salute impertimus. Dabantur in Aula Nostrâ  
*Bruxellensi*, die septimo *Novembris*, Anno Salutis  
1658: Regniq[ue] Nostrî decimo.

Memorandum



Memorandum, That Mr. Tho. Cawton, being Pastor of the Parish Church of Bartholomew behind the Exchange, was for severall months imprisoned in the Gatehouse, within a few days after the beheading of the late King, for praying openly for his Son, as King of Great Britain, &c. And being afterwards again in danger, about the time of Mr. Love's Suffering, he was forced, for the safeguard of his life, to flee into Holland, and was there Preacher to the English Church at Rotterdam. And hereupon his Majesty was pleased to write the above-printed Letter to the said Mr Cawton, and to send it to him by the hands of Major Generall Massey, purposely, that he might to the Dutch and French Ministers testifie his Constancy in the Protestant Religion. (And observable it is, that this was done Anno 1658. when there was not as yet the least appearance of hope for his being call'd back again into England.) As for the ascertaining of the undoubted truth of this Letter, it is judg'd requisite to make known, that Mrs. Cawton, the widow of the said Mr. Cawton, is now resident in London, with whom the Originall of the Letter is to be seen.

**FINIS.**